

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 11270 242022 Z

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 DODE-00

RSR-01 /038 W

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R 241752 Z APR 73 ZFD

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9490

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E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PFOR, FR

SUBJECT: ANTOINE SEILLIERE DE LABORDE, DIPLOMATIC ADVISOR TO
ARMED FORCES MINISTER GALLEY

REF: STATE 76440

1. SEILLIERE WAS BORN DECEMBER 20, 19 37. HE STUDIED AT SCIENCES PO AND ENA BEFORE ENTERING THE FOREIGN MINISTRY IN 1965.
2. AFTER FOUR YEARS IN THE ECONOMIC SECTION AT THE QUAI HE WAS NAMED " CHARGE DE MISSION" IN JULY 1969 TO FORMER PRIME MINISTER JACQUES CHABAN- DELMAS. HE WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR FOLLOWING EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES AND ECONOMIC QUESTIONS.
3. FROM MID- 1972 UNTIL HIS NEW APPOINTMENT AS DIPLOMATIC ADVISOR TO ARMED FORCES MINISTER GALLEY, SEILLIERE SERVED IN FORMER FOREIGN MINISTER SCHUMANN' S CABINET WHERE HE FOLLOWED ECONOMIC QUESTIONS.
4. SEILLIERE IS AN IMPRESSIVE AND MATURE 35- YEAR OLD WHO IS CLEARLY WELL THOUGHT OF WITHIN THE FRENCH BUREAUCRACY. EMBASSY OFFICERS WHO HAVE DEALT WITH HIM DURING HIS TOUR IN PRIME MINISTER JACQUES CHABAN- DELMAS' S CABINET FOUND HIM A RELIABLE INTERLOCUTOR BUT OCCASIONALLY GIVEN TO RIGID POSITIONS, PARTICULARLY ON TECHNICAL ECONOMIC QUESTIONS. HE FREQUENTLY EMPHASIZED THE IMPORTANCE

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PAGE 02 PARIS 11270 242022 Z

OF EUROPE' S BEING " INDEPENDENT" FROM THE U. S. AND SEEMED TO GIVE THIS FACTOR GREATER WEIGHT THAN THE NEED TO STRENGTHEN " ATLANTIC PARTNERSHIP." HE DID NOT, HOWEVER, DISPLAY ANY VISCERAL ANTI-AMERICANISM.

5. OUR PRELIMINARY CONTACTS WITH HIM IN HIS NEW CAPACITY SUGGEST HE WILL BE ANXIOUS TO MAINTAIN CLOSE WORKING CONTACTS WITH THE EMBASSY.

6. BORN TO A TITLED FAMILY (HIS FATHER IS A BARON AND AN INDUSTRIALIST), SEILLIERE IS EXTREMELY WEALTHY. HE RECENTLY MARRIED AND HAS JUST RENOVATED A LARGE, IMPRESSIVE RESIDENCE IN THE MARAIS DISTRICT OF PARIS.

7. SEILLIERE SPEAKS EXCELLENT ENGLISH. EXEMPT
IRWIN

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NMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts:
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 APR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973PARIS11270
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: PARIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730451/aaaaiwfl.tel
Line Count: 79
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 STATE 76440
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21-Aug-2001 by shawdg>; APPROVED <28-Nov-2001 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> srp 980130
Subject: ANTOINE SEILLIERE DE LABORDE, DIPLOMATIC ADVISOR TO ARMED FORCES MINISTER GALLEY
TAGS: PFOR, FR
To: EUR
SECSTATE WASHDC
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005